GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4301
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2008
AVAILABILITY OF DOCTORS MIDWIVES IN PHCS CHCS
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the availability of doctors and midwives in the Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs) working under the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof,state wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of doctors and midwives in CHCs/PHCs; and

(d) the extent to which the objectives of the Mission will be achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (b) : As on March, 2007 there are a total of 22608 doctors working in Primary Health Centres[PHCs] and a total of 5117 Specialist Doctors working in Community Health Centres [CHCs] across the country. Statements showing the availability doctors in PHCs in all States/UTs is at Annexure A and specialists doctors in CHCs in all States/UTs is at Annexure B.

There are a total of 29776 Nurses Midwife/Staff Nurses at PHCs and CHCs across the country.A Statement showing the availability of Nurses Midwife/Staff Nurses at PHCs and CHCs is at Annexure C.

(c) to (d) : The PHCs and CHCs are run by the State/UT Governments.Under National Rural Health Mission[NRHM], funds are released to States/UTs Governments for upgradation and strengthening of Primary Health Centres including contractual appointment of staff.The State/UT Governments are however required to incorporate their requirement in their annual NRHM Programme Implementation Plans.

A Task Group constituted under the National Rural Health Mission under the Chairmanship of Direct or General of Health Services has recommended the following measures to ensure the services of doctors in rural areas :

Increase in the age of retirement of doctors to 65 years preferably with posting near hometown;

Decentralization of recruitment at district level;

Walk-in-interview and contractual appointment of doctors;

Enhancing the salary for posting in rural areas by one-third.

A few of the above initiatives have also been taken by various State/UT Governments.